



ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT AND SEAWALL REPLACEMENT PROJECT COMMENT SUMMARY

February 2004

Introduction

The Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project database contains 3,637 comments, 45 of which were submitted in February 2004.

Origin of Comments

40 of the comments received came from attendees at community briefings held by the project team. Four comments were submitted on the website and one comment was submitted by email.

37 comments were received from the central area, four from the southern area, three from the northern area of the project, and one from outside the project area.

Comments received at the community briefings are given during presentations by the project team. Comments and questions are recorded by a project team member and logged into the comment database.

Comment Categories

Each comment submitted is categorized by the content of the message. There are 60 comment categories divided into six sections. The sections are economic, structures/locations, involved parties, transportation, design and construction, and environmental. The comment categories range from cost and freight to traffic, air pollution and public safety.

Comments were received in the areas listed below. These are groups of similar categories with the ideas that were expressed in the comments.

Design/Construction:

This group includes categories such as construction, urban design, the seawall, and parks/green space. There were 24 comments in this group. Examples include:

- How will traffic be diverted during construction?
- What happens to displaced parking in each alternative?
- Is there a scenario where you would rebuild the seawall and not the viaduct?
- The views are great, but so would views from open, City-owned green spaces be.
- A good deal of the land above the tunnel should remain commonly owned, City property, replete with parks and open, green spaces, and that the developed areas are mixed use residential and retail, complete with some low-income alternatives.



Traffic:

This group includes categories such as traffic, connections/circulations, pedestrians, and bicycles. There were 18 comments in this group. Examples include:

- I walk to work every day on the waterfront and I don't want crossing the street to become an occupational hazard.
- Why is there not a 'no build' alternative? You should take the viaduct down and let traffic do what it will do.
- What do you plan to do for pedestrians from Pike to the waterfront during construction?

Economic:

The group includes categories such as cost, funding, property value/acquisition, and tolls. There were 16 comments in this group. Examples include:

- Sometimes money must be spent. Let's just build the tunnel and be done with it.
- Obviously the cost is a concern, but I am willing to help pay if it results in a green and vibrant waterfront.
- Will the money come, and if so, from where?
- Will there be cuts in other services in order to pay for this?
- If the Rebuild Alternative is selected, how would timing be different and could you get funding over time so that you can do the worst part first?

Environmental/Public Safety:

This group includes categories like soils, public safety, earthquakes, and fish/wildlife. There were nine comments in this group. Examples include:

- Noise and dust will have a huge impact on the condos and this is my biggest concern. It is a City ordinance that this issues be addressed in the DEIS and how you plan on dealing with it. If it is not in the EIS, a contractor will not have to abide by it.
- Are they going to put noise walls up on the aerial structure? Noise is the biggest concern for construction.

Project Related:

This group includes categories like purpose and need, public involvement, or anything related to City of Seattle, WSDOT, or FHWA. There were four comments in this group. Examples include:

- How will this be decided? Who gets to make the final decision? Will it go to a vote?
- What is the mechanism between going from the things that might happen and those that will happen in picking a preferred plan?

Transit:

This group includes categories like light rail, monorail, and transit. There were three comments in this group. Examples include:

- The integration of other transportation projects that are funded needs to happen before construction begins.